

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An interface controller that connects devices which read and write the NMEA 0183 sentence data in a RS422 electrical format, to the Ethernet for transmission. NMEA 0183 sentence data is encapsulated and routed to other interface controllers, and/or to user applications operating on computers. A software interface utility designed to operate on the same computer as the users application programs will provide the transparency and the routing/mapping between the Ethernet transmitted NMEA 0183 sentence data and the users application programs communications interface, transparently.